

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Replace the paragraph at page 72, lines 18-24 with the following amended paragraph:

Optical element (a'2) was obtained by laminating the long sheet of optically anisotropic member (A2) obtained in Preparation Example 3 and optical element (b'2) obtained above in accordance with the roll-to-roll process. The angle between the slow axis of optically anisotropic member (A2) and the absorption axis of optical element (b'2) [~~(a'2)~~] was 90°. A plate having a suitable size was cut out of optical element (a'2) and used as polarizer plate of the output side (A'2).

Replace the paragraph at page 76, lines 9-12 with the following amended paragraph:

Optically anisotropic member (B3) had refractive indices of n_{xB} [~~n_{xA}~~]: 1.56677, n_{yB} [~~n_{yA}~~]: 1.56617 and n_{zB} [~~n_{zA}~~]: 1.56677, an in-plane retardation $R_e(B3)$ of 60 nm, and a retardation in the direction of the thickness $R_{th}(B3)$ of -30 nm.

Replace the paragraph at page 78, lines 8-11 with the following amended paragraph:

Optically anisotropic member (B4) had refractive indices of n_{xB} [~~n_{xA}~~]: 1.56775, n_{yB} [~~n_{yA}~~]: 1.56505 and n_{zB} [~~n_{zA}~~]: 1.56640, an in-plane retardation $R_e(B4)$ of 270 nm, and a

retardation in the direction of the thickness $R_{th}(B4)$ of 0 nm.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 80, line 25, and ending at page 81, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

An optical element was obtained by laminating the long sheet of optically anisotropic member (B4) obtained in Preparation Example 8 and a long sheet of a polarizer plate [manufactured by SANRITZ Company; HLC2-5618S; the thickness: 180 μm] in accordance with the roll-to-roll process in a manner such that the side of the discotic liquid crystal layer of optically anisotropic member (B4) [~~(A4)~~] was placed towards the polarizer plate. The angle between the slow axis of optically anisotropic member (B4) and the absorption axis of the polarizer plate was 90°. A plate obtained by cutting out of the obtained optical element in a suitable size was used as polarizer plate at the incident side (B'4).

Replace the paragraph at page 82, lines 13-15 with the following amended paragraph:

Preparation Example 9 (Preparation of a film of optically anisotropic member (A5) satisfying $\underline{n_{zA}} > \underline{n_{yA}}$ [~~$n_{zB} > n_{yB}$~~] and $\underline{n_{xA}} > \underline{n_{zA}}$ [~~$n_{xB} > n_{zB}$~~])

Replace the paragraph at page 84, lines 11-14 with the following amended paragraph:

Optically anisotropic member (B5) had refractive indices of $\underline{n_{xB}}$ [~~n_{xA}~~]: 1.54590,

$\underline{n}_{yB}[\underline{n}_{yA}]$: 1.54368 and $\underline{n}_{zB}[\underline{n}_{zA}]$: 1.54590, an in-plane retardation $R_e(B5)$ of 190 nm, and a retardation in the direction of the thickness $R_{th}(B5)$ of -90 nm.

Replace the paragraph at page 86, lines 9-12 with the following amended paragraph:

Optically anisotropic member (B6) obtained above had refractive indices of $\underline{n}_{xB}[\underline{n}_{xA}]$: 1.54347, $\underline{n}_{yB}[\underline{n}_{yA}]$: 1.54080 and $\underline{n}_{zB}[\underline{n}_{zA}]$: 1.54206, an in-plane retardation $R_e(B6)$ of 270 nm, and a retardation in the direction of the thickness $R_{th}(B6)$ of 8 nm.

Replace the paragraph at page 91, lines 19-22 with the following amended paragraph:

Optically anisotropic member (B7) obtained above had refractive indices of $\underline{n}_{xB}[\underline{n}_{xA}]$: 1.58687, $\underline{n}_{yB}[\underline{n}_{yA}]$: 1.58362 and $\underline{n}_{zB}[\underline{n}_{zA}]$: 1.58525, an in-plane retardation $R_e(B7)$ of 270 nm, and a retardation in the direction of the thickness $R_{th}(B7)$ of 0 nm.